

FAITH IN 5

Ordinary Time: Week 11

Ages 8+

- 1. What liturgical season is the Church in now?** We are in Ordinary Time! Ordinary Time is the time outside of Advent, Christmas, Lent & Easter. **What colors and symbols represent Ordinary Time?** Green is the color for Ordinary Time. Green can remind you of growth- something we hope to do throughout our liturgical seasons. Green symbolizes life! The symbol for Ordinary Time is often two fish and a basket of bread, reminding us of Jesus' miracle of the fish and loaves. We spend much of Ordinary Time familiarizing ourselves with Jesus' miracles! **Why is it the 11th week of Ordinary Time and not the 1st?** Ordinary Time is split into two segments, the first one being after Christmastime but before Lent. We continue counting from Ordinary Time weeks before Lent. **Is Ordinary Time boring?** No, Ordinary Time is bursting full of Solemnities, and Saint's Feast Days just like any other season of the Church!
- 2. What Solemnity do we celebrate this Sunday?** This Sunday is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity! Remember The Holy Trinity means three persons (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) in One God. Sometimes the concept of the Holy Trinity seems much too complicated to understand. In the Church we call this a mystery. Not like a mystery book we read where problems are solved, the Sacred Mystery of the Blessed Trinity means the full meaning of it is beyond our understanding until we reach Heaven. **Why do we celebrate something beyond our comprehension?** The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us "The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of Christian faith and life. It is the most fundamental and essential teaching." (CCC 234) The more we study and celebrate this mystery, the deeper we can enter into God's identity and greatness!
- 3. Monday, June 13 is St. Anthony of Padua's feast day. What special favor do we ask of St. Anthony?** St. Anthony is the patron saint of lost objects and so many of us ask for his intercession praying "St. Anthony, St. Anthony, come around- something's lost that can't be found!" **Where does this intercessory prayer come from?** A book of Psalms, filled with St. Anthony's notes were stolen from his room. He prayed and prayed for the return of the book AND the thief. Both the book and the thief returned! **What else do we know about St. Anthony?** He lived during the 13th century (That is the 1200s) and was a Franciscan friar. He was known for his preaching. There is a legend of him preaching to fish when people wouldn't listen. There is also a beautiful legend where St. Anthony proved the real presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament by offering the Host and fodder to a horse. The horse ignored the food and bowed before the Blessed Sacrament!

4. **Apologetics- What would you say if somebody asked you, "How can you really believe Jesus is a piece of bread?!"** Jesus actually called himself the Bread of Life. John 6:51 says "I am the living bread which came down from Heaven, if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh." We eat bread from wheat to feed our bodies. We eat bread from Heaven, Jesus, to feed our souls. In the Eucharist we literally receive Jesus. **What do we call this?** Transubstantiation is a big word but one all Catholic children should learn! This means the bread and wine have been converted to the Body and Blood of Christ during the consecration but remain the same in appearance.

5. **Catechism- What are the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit?** The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. **What do these gifts do for us?** The Holy Spirit gives us these gifts as muscles for our soul. They make our souls strong. They also help make the crosses we must bear throughout life easier. (Baltimore Catechism, Lesson 10).

REVIEW QUESTION: What are the principal ways of obtaining grace? Praying and the Sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist.

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